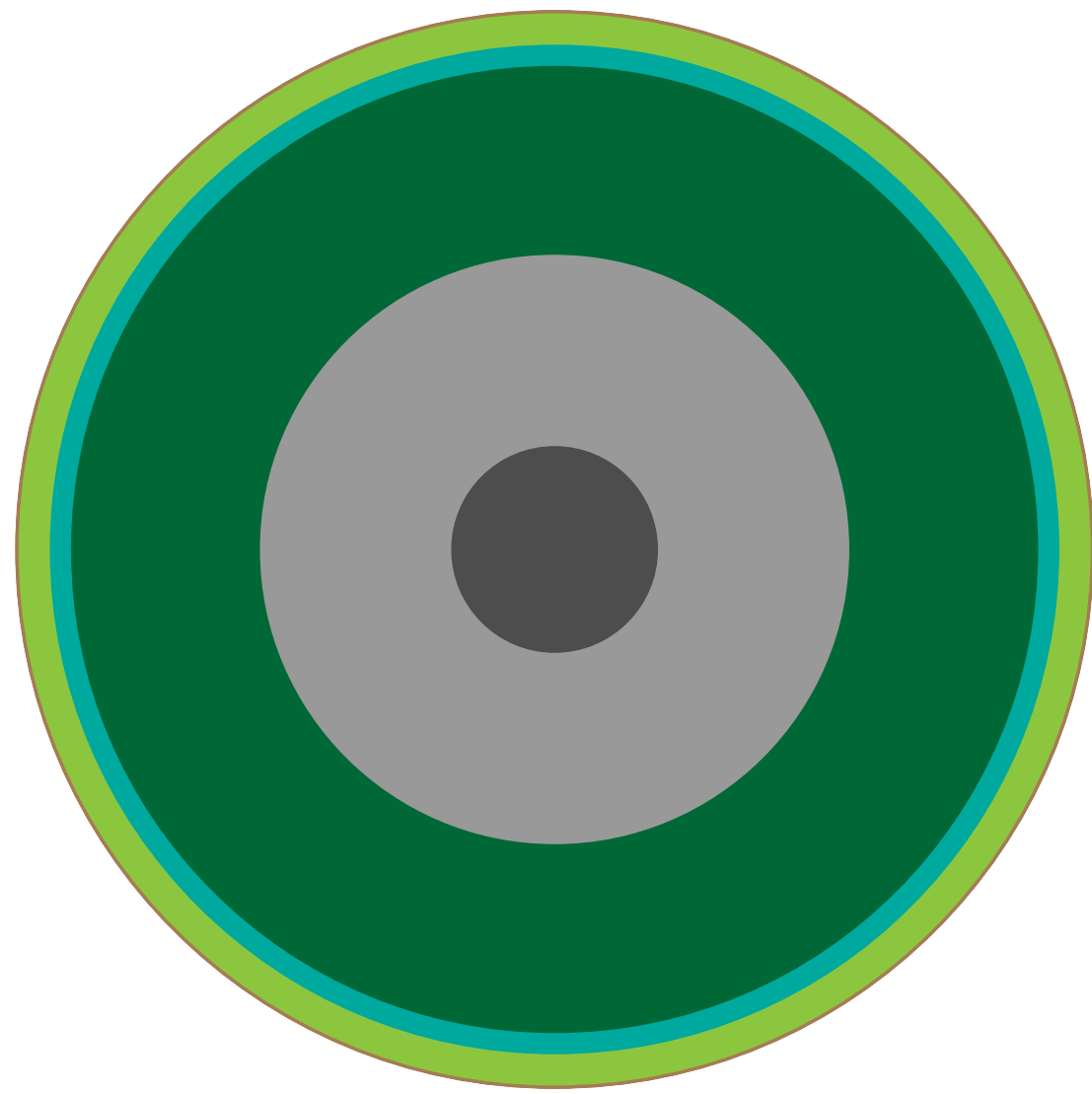
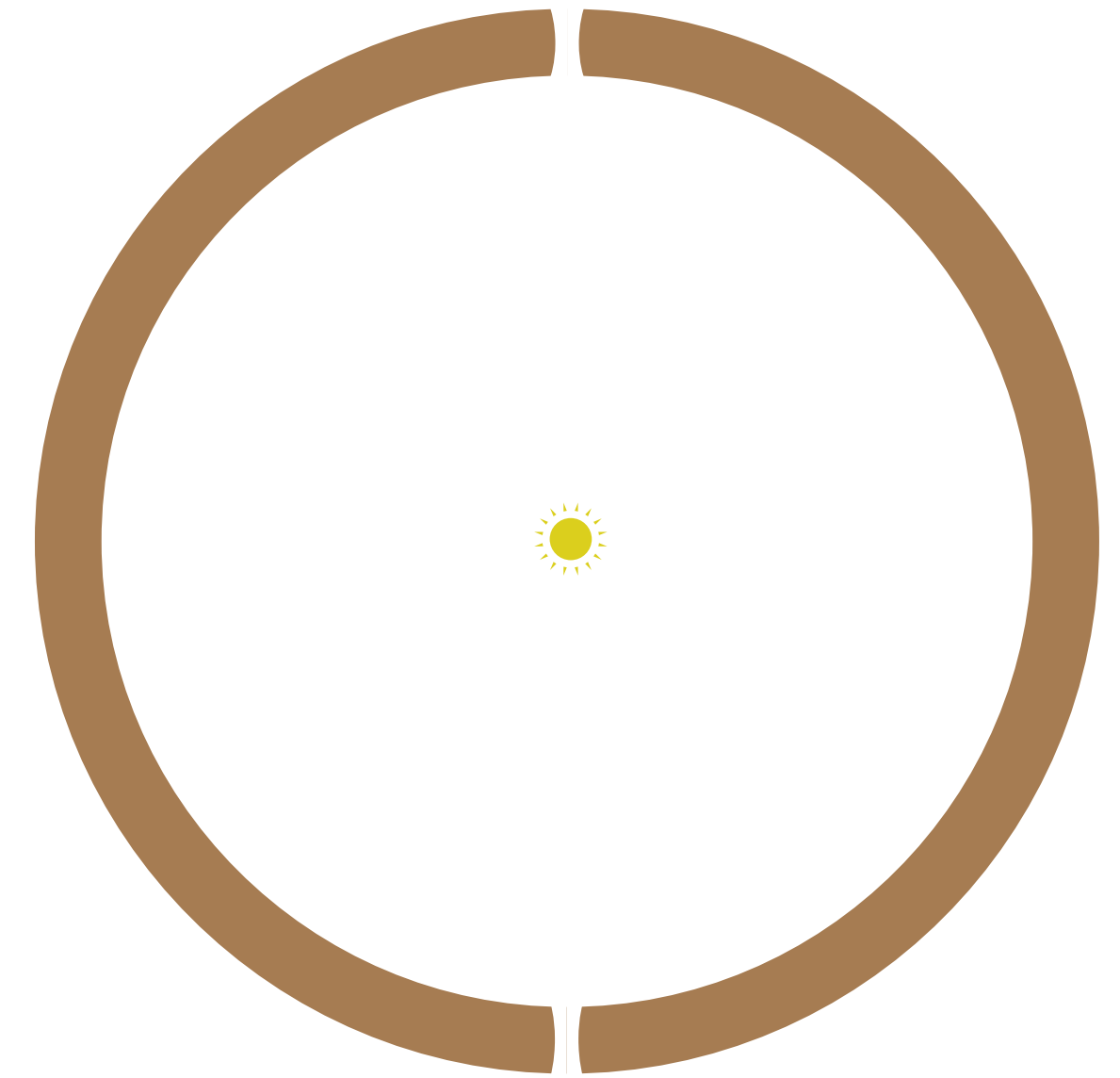


Journeys to the Centers of the Earths



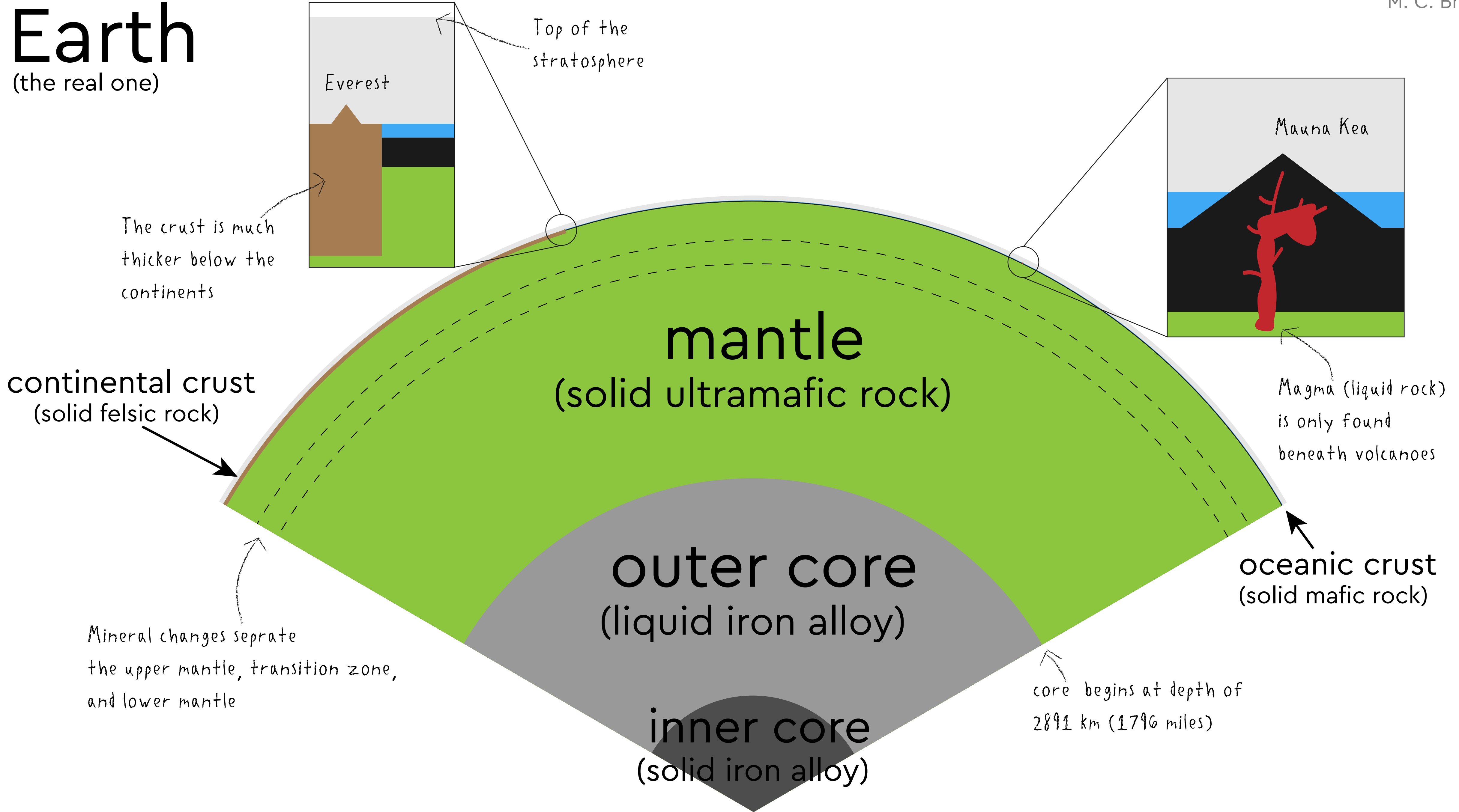
the Deep Earth in fiction



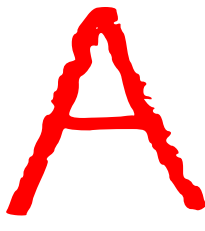
Matthew C. Brennan

Earth

(the real one)



The Underdark



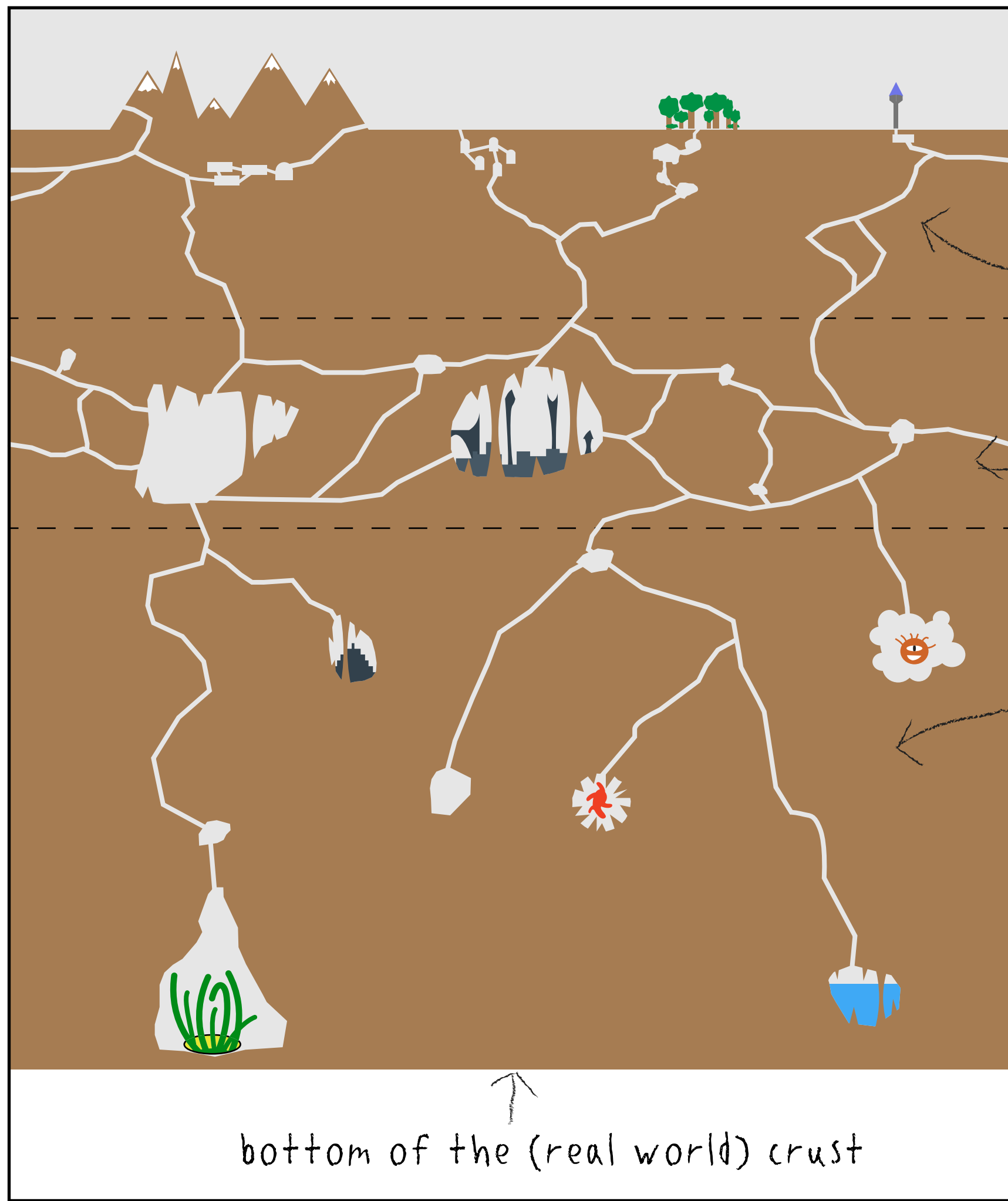
(Dungeons & Dragons, 1986)

Just assume there's an underground wizard keeping those caverns comfortable.

upperdark

middledark

lowerdark

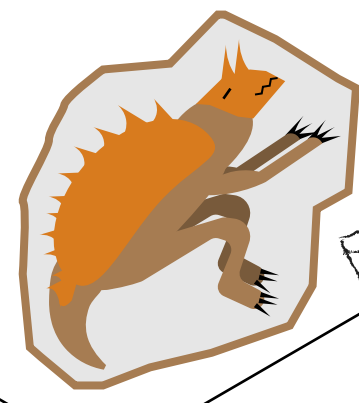


Dwarves, crypts,
secret passages

Caves, mushrooms,
angry elves

Squids, demons,
portals to unpleasant dimensions

bottom of the (real world) crust



The Tarrasque (not to scale)

not so much adventure here

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

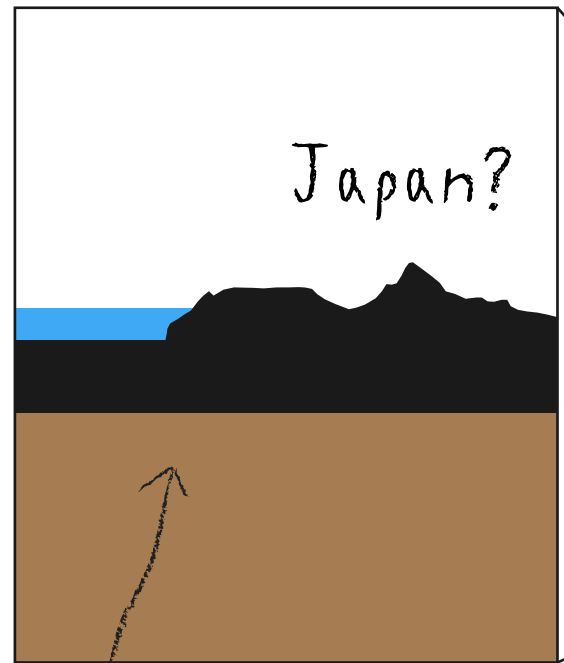
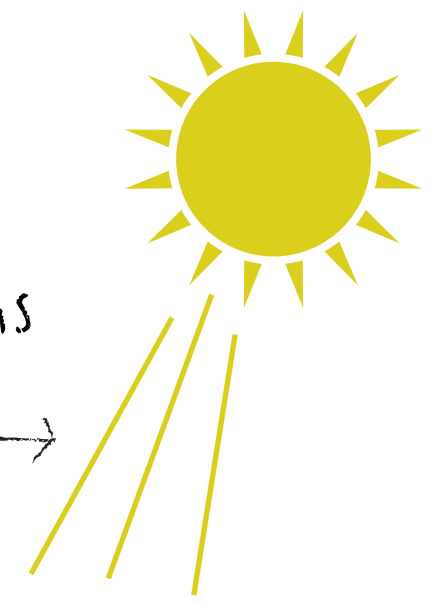
The Core

(Jon Amiel, 2003)

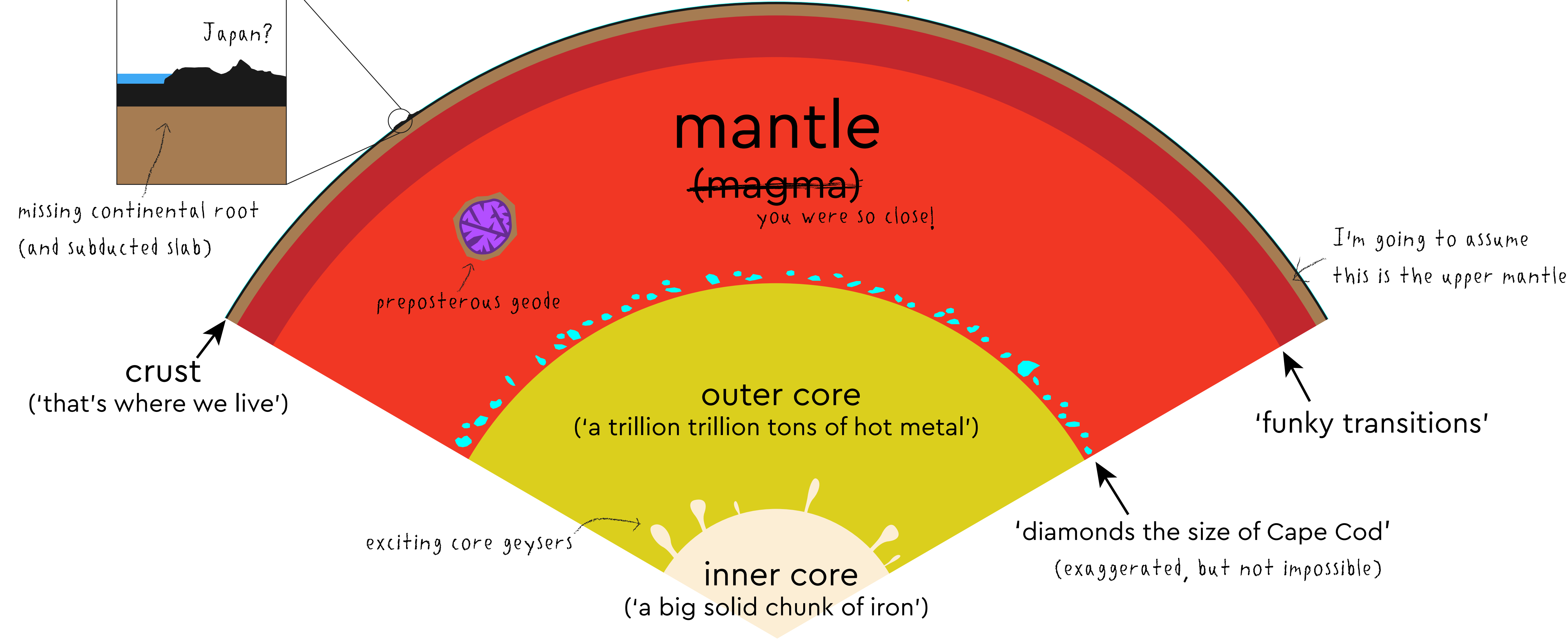
A-

This movie gets a lot of undeserved sass.

scary, bridge-melting laser beams



missing continental root
(and subducted slab)



mantle

~~(magma)~~

you were so close!

preposterous geode

I'm going to assume
this is the upper mantle

'funky transitions'

crust
(that's where we live')

outer core
(a trillion trillion tons of hot metal')

'diamonds the size of Cape Cod'
(exaggerated, but not impossible)

exciting core geysers

inner core
(a big solid chunk of iron')

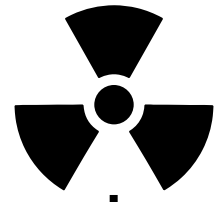
Crack in the World

(Andrew Marton, 1965)

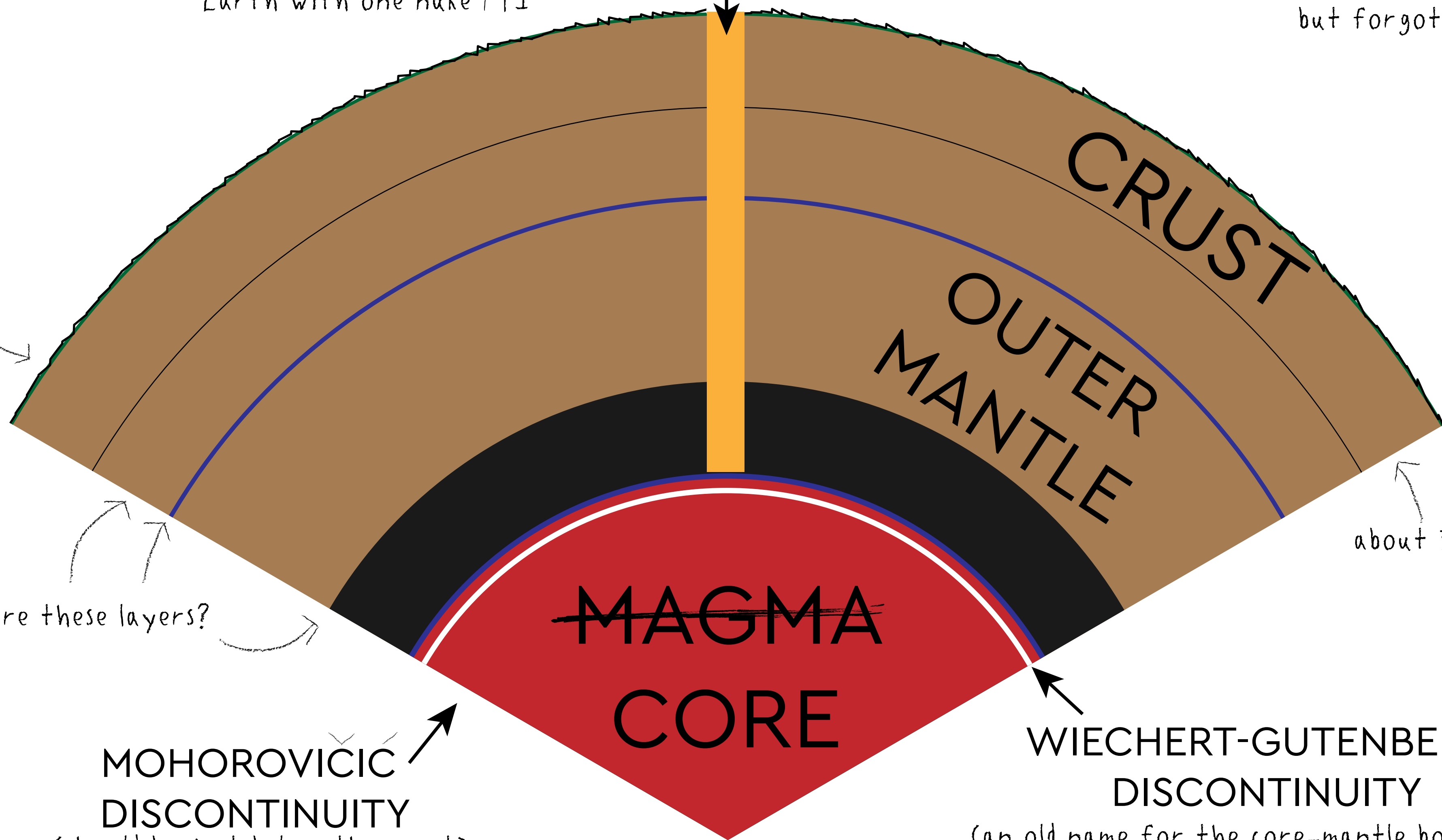
B+

It's as if you asked a geologist what all the layers should be but forgot to take notes.

you cant destroy the Earth with one nuke FYI



mountains?



What are these layers?

MOHOROVICIC DISCONTINUITY
(should be just below the crust)

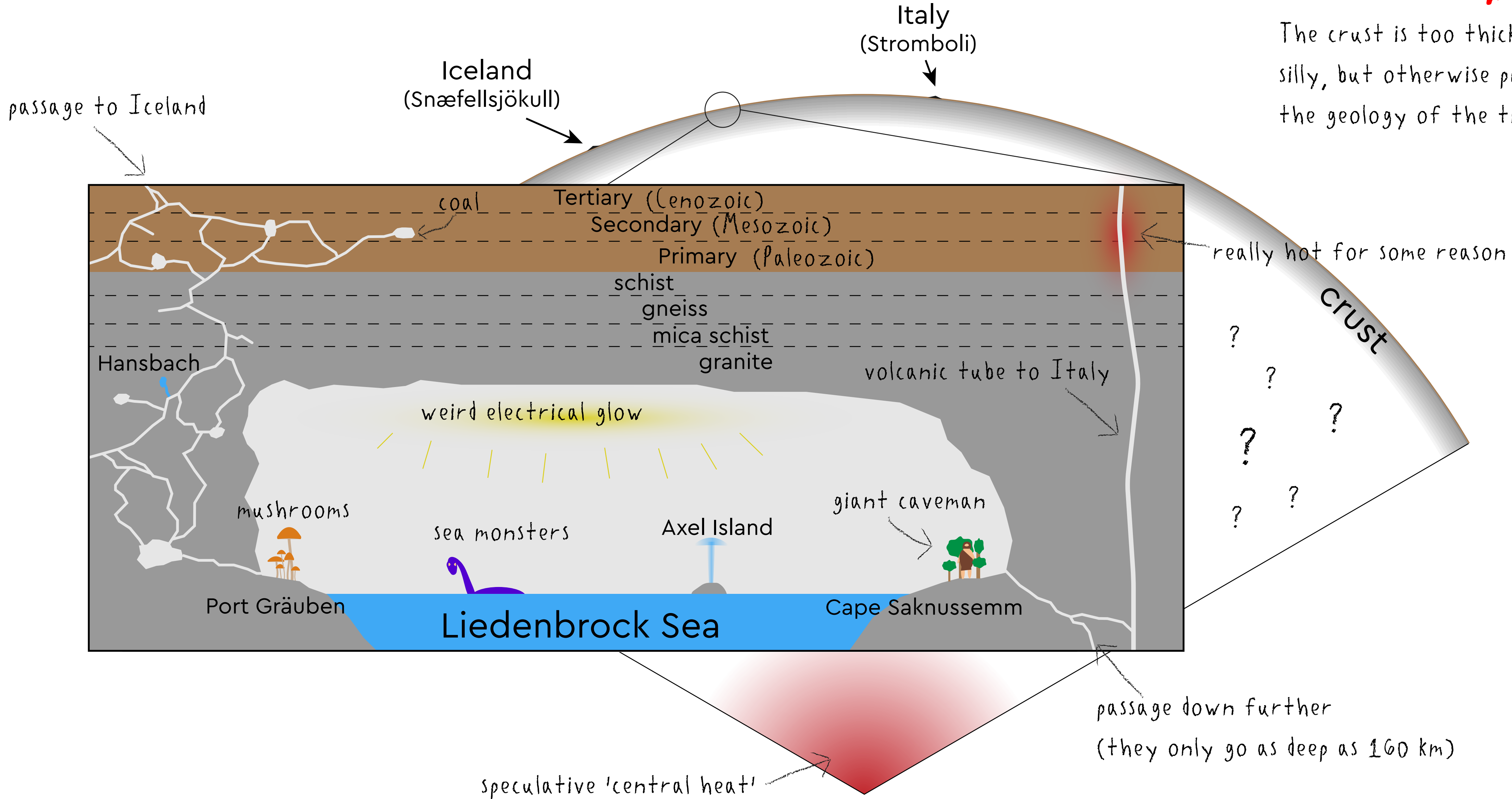
WIECHERT-GUTENBERG DISCONTINUITY
(an old name for the core-mantle boundary)

Voyage au centre de la Terre

(Jules Verne, 1864)

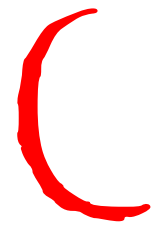
B

The crust is too thick and the caves are silly, but otherwise pretty accurate to the geology of the time.

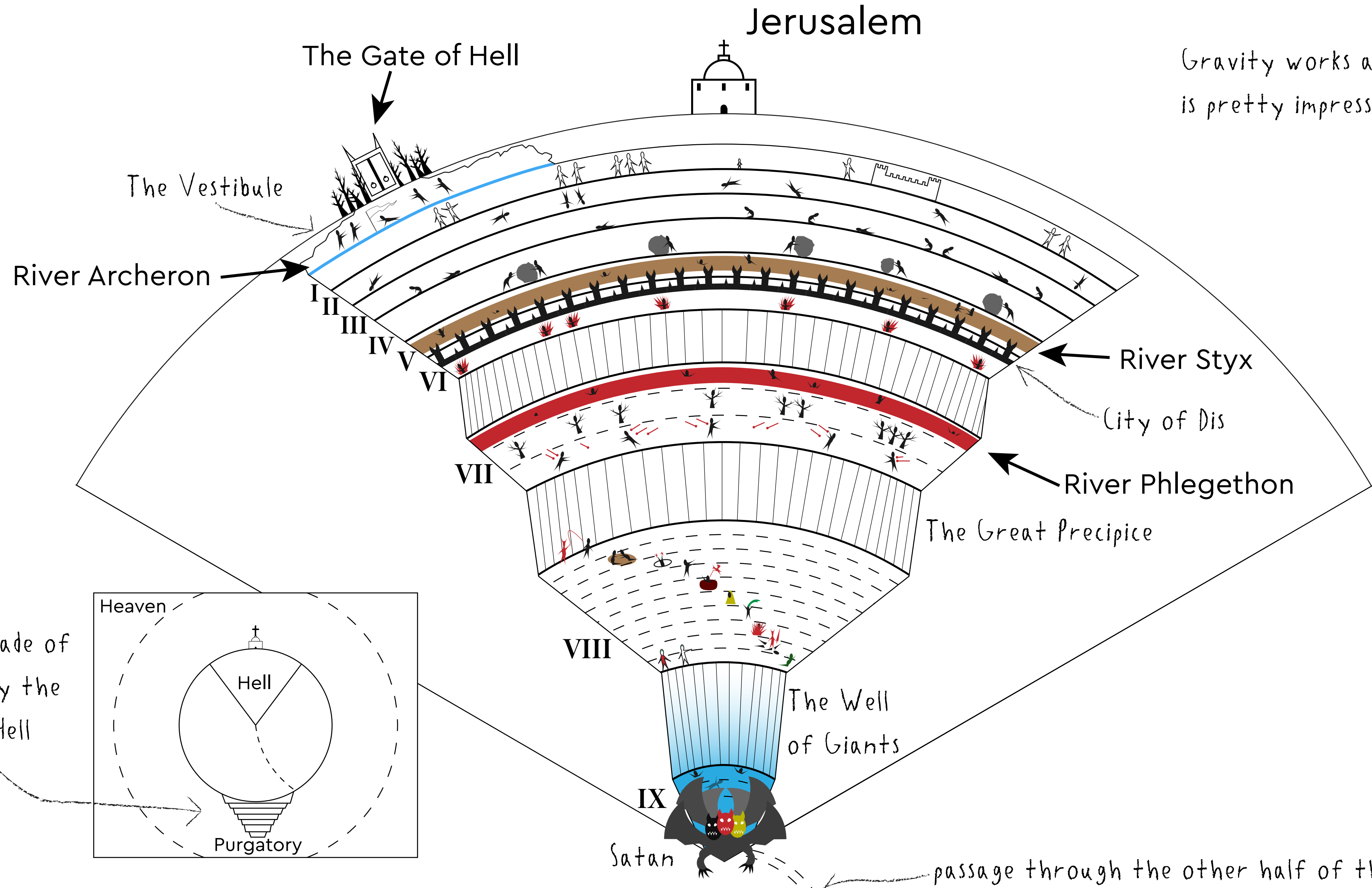


Inferno

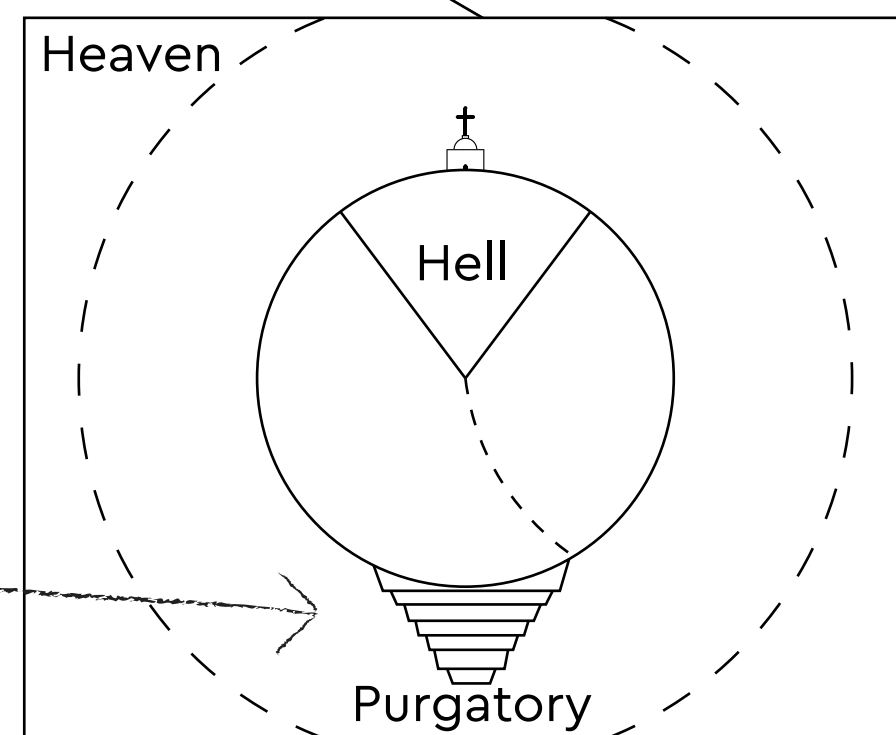
(Dante Alighieri, 1320)



Gravity works almost correctly, which is pretty impressive for the Middle Ages.



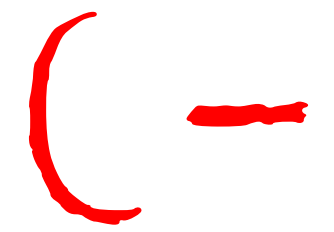
Purgatory is made of rock displaced by the formation of Hell



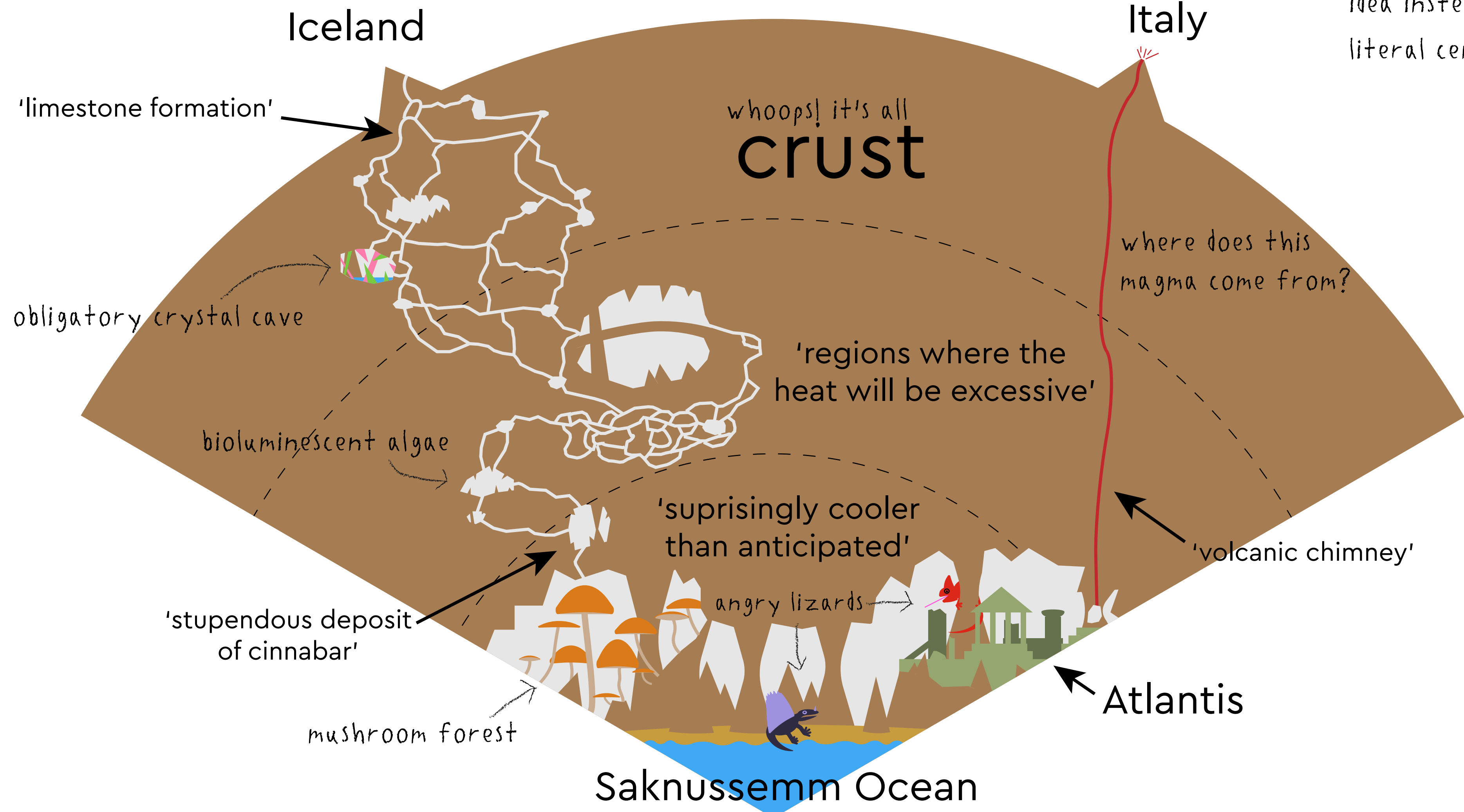
passage through the other half of the Earth

Journey to the Center of the Earth

(Eric Brevig, 1959)



Should have stuck with Verne's idea instead of insisting on the literal center.



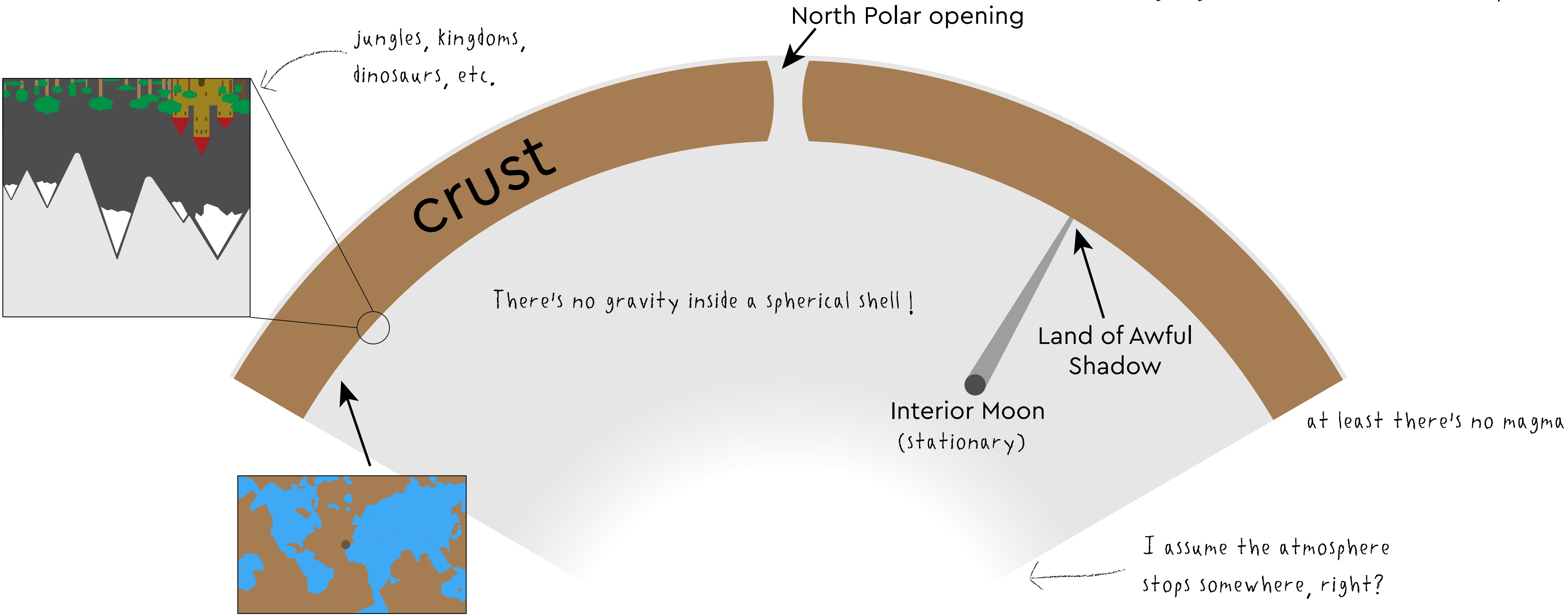
The center of the Earth is on the surface of a body of water?

Pellucidar

(Edgar Rice Burroughs, 1914)

D

I'm going to tell Issac Newton what you did.



jungles, kingdoms, dinosaurs, etc.

There's no gravity inside a spherical shell!

Land of Awful Shadow

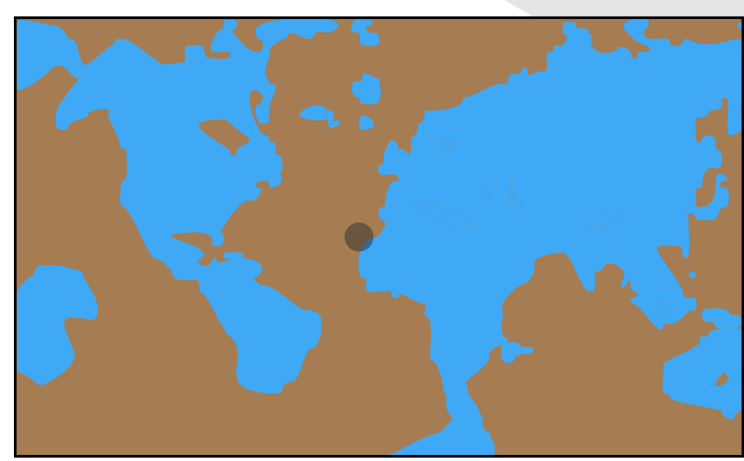
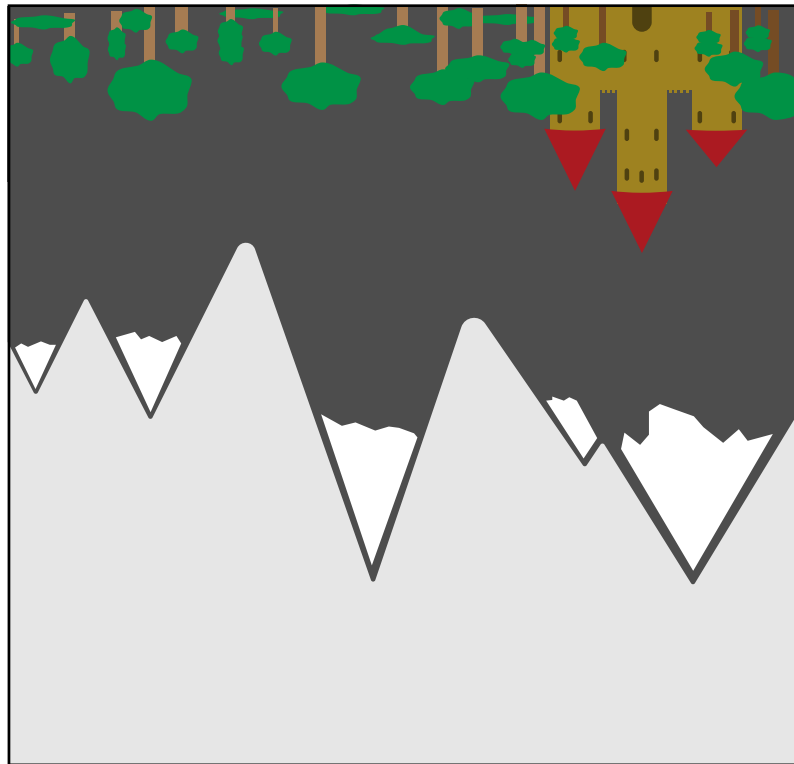
Interior Moon (stationary)

at least there's no magma

I assume the atmosphere stops somewhere, right?

Interior Sun

how does this work?



Pellucidar's inverted land:water ratio means that it has twice as much land as the outer surface. Amazingly, Burroughs' math is all accurate.

Discworld

(Terry Pratchett, 1983)

F

See me after class.

